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ABSTRACT

Analysis of Hispanic birth data for 22 states in 1980 showed the following: (1) The fertility rate for Hispanic women was 95.4 births per 1,000 women aged 15-44; this rate was 53 percent higher than the rate for non-Hispanic Whites and five percent higher than for non-Hispanic Blacks. (2) Age-specific birth rates indicated that the fertility of Hispanic women was higher than that of non-Hispanics at age 20 and older. (3) Mothers of Mexican and Puerto Rican origin were younger than White non-Hispanics and older than Black non-Hispanics. (4) Associated with the high rates of childbearing at relatively young ages was the tendency toward larger families. (5) Nearly one-quarter of all Hispanic births were to unmarried mothers and the rate of childbearing by unmarried Hispanic mothers was nearly twice the rate for unmarried non-Hispanics. (6) Hispanic mothers had generally completed fewer years of schooling than non-Hispanics. (7) Hispanic mothers, except Cubans, began prenatal care at a later state of pregnancy than non-Hispanics. (8) The incidence of low birth weight among babies born to Hispanic mothers was generally comparable to that for babies born to White non-Hispanics. (CMG)

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Births of Hispanic Parentage, 1980

by Stephanie J. Ventura, A.M., Division of Vital Statistics

Highlights

The fertility of the Hispanic population continued at a very high level in 1980. In that year the fertility rate for women of Hispanic origin was 95.4 births per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years. This rate was 53 percent higher than the rate for white non-Hispanic women (62.4) and 5 percent above the rate for black non-Hispanic women (90.7). The fertility rate for Mexican women remains substantially above that of women of other Hispanic origins. The 1980 rate for Mexican women was 111.3, 45 percent above the rate for Puerto Rican women (77.0), 166 percent higher than the rate for Cuban women (41.9), and 48 percent above the rate for other Hispanic women (75.3). Age-specific birth rates indicate that the fertility of Hispanic women is higher than that of either white or black non-Hispanic women at ages 20 years and older. These rates were computed for the total of 22 States which reported Hispanic origin on their birth certificate in 1980. These 22 States accounted for an estimated 90 percent of all births of Hispanic origin in the United States.

Mothers of Mexican and Puerto Rican origin tend to be somewhat younger than white non-Hispanic mothers and older than black non-Hispanic mothers. Associated with the high rates of childbearing at relatively young ages is the tendency toward larger families. Among births to women of Mexican origin, for example, 19.0 percent were fourth and higher order, compared with 8.1 percent for white non-Hispanic births and 15.0 percent for black non-Hispanic births.

Nearly one-quarter of all Hispanic-origin births in 1980 were to unmarried mothers. The proportions of nonmarital births by origin group were 20.3 percent for Mexican, 46.3 percent for Puerto Rican, and 40.0 percent for Cuban births, compared with 9.3 percent for white non-Hispanic and 56.4 percent for black non-Hispanic births. The rate of childbearing by unmarried Hispanic women was nearly twice the rate for unmarried non-Hispanic women, 52.0 births per 1,000 unmarried women compared with 27.7. The rates for the specific Hispanic groups were 74.5 for Puerto Rican, 54.5 for Mexican, 40.9 for "other" Hispanic, and 9.3 for Cuban unmarried women.

Mothers of Hispanic origin have generally completed fewer years of schooling than non-Hispanic mothers. In 1980, 49.0 percent of Hispanic-origin mothers had completed high school compared with 81.9 percent of white non-Hispanic mothers and 62.9 percent of black non-Hispanic mothers.

Hispanic-origin mothers, except Cubans, begin prenatal care at a later stage of pregnancy than do non-Hispanic mothers. In 1980, 12.0 percent of Hispanic mothers did not begin prenatal care until the third trimester of pregnancy or received no care at all, compared with 3.5 percent of white non-Hispanic mothers and 9.6 percent of black non-Hispanic mothers.

The incidence of low birth weight among babies born to women of Hispanic origin is generally comparable to that for babies born to white non-Hispanic women. In 1980, 5.6 percent of births to Mexican and Cuban mothers weighed less than 5½ pounds, compared with 5.7 percent for white non-Hispanic births. Low birth weight was more prevalent among babies born to Puerto Rican mothers (8.9 percent) and black babies of non-Hispanic origin (12.5 percent).

Introduction

Information on births of Hispanic parentage was available for 22 States in 1980, an increase of 3 States over the number reporting this information in 1979. The 22 States which included an item on their birth certificate on the ethnic or Hispanic origin of the mother and father were Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Maine, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Texas, Utah, and Wyoming. These States accounted for an estimated 90 percent of all births of Hispanic origin in the United States in 1980. This substantial increase over the 60-percent cover-

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age estimated for 1979 resulted from the addition of Georgia, New Mexico, and Texas to the reporting area. Demographic and health characteristics of 1978 and 1979 Hispanic births were reported in detail in earlier reports.[1,2]

The completeness of reporting of Hispanic origin improved considerably between 1979 and 1980, as it had between 1978 and 1979, particularly for origin of the mother. In 1980 the Hispanic origin of the mother was not reported for 7.0 percent of births in the reporting area, compared with 9.6 percent in 1979 and 12.1 percent in 1978. Origin of father was not stated on 16.4 percent of the records in 1980, compared with 18.1 percent in 1979 and 20.2 percent in 1978. The less complete reporting of father's origin on the birth record is associated in large part with the generally poorer reporting of characteristics of the father for births to unmarried mothers. Because the mother's origin is better reported than the father's origin (tables 1–3), births are classified only by origin of the mother in tables 4–14 and in the remainder of the text.

Geographic coverage

Although the 22 reporting States accounted for 90 percent of all Hispanic origin births in the United States, they accounted for only 57 percent of all births in the nation.[3] Hispanic origin births in the 22 reporting States are further concentrated in a relatively small number of these States. Nine States (Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, and Texas) accounted for 96.1 percent of the Hispanic origin births in the 22 reporting States. Additionally, births of specified Hispanic origin are concentrated in fewer States. In 1980, 93.3 percent of Mexican births were to residents of Arizona, California, Illinois, and Texas. Five States accounted for 93.0 percent of births of Puerto Rican origin (California, Florida, Illinois, New Jersey, and New York), and four States accounted for 91.9 percent of Cuban births (California, Florida, New Jersey, and New York).

Race

The vast majority of births to mothers of Hispanic origin are white (table 4). In 1980, 95.1 percent of these births were white, 2.3 percent were black, and 2.0 percent were of other races. The highest proportions of white births were to Mexican (98.1 percent), Cuban (95.5 percent), and Puerto Rican mothers (90.4 percent). Tabulations in this report generally present data for the non-Hispanic population by race, because national fertility data show wide differences in most characteristics between white and black births.

Birth and fertility rates

Birth and fertility rates for the 22-State reporting area show that fertility levels among the Hispanic population are substantially above those for the white non-Hispanic population, but are about the same as those for the black non-Hispanic population. The Hispanic birth rate was 23.5 live births per 1,000 population in 1980, compared with 14.2 for the white non-Hispanic population and 22.9 for the black non-Hispanic population. Fertility rates showed a similar pattern. The Hispanic fertility rate was 95.4 births per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years, compared with 62.4 for white non-Hispanic women and 90.7 for black non-Hispanic women (tables 5–8).

In general, the 1980 birth and fertility rates for specific Hispanic groups were all somewhat below those for 1979 except the rates for Cubans which increased slightly between 1979 and 1980. Although the number of States included in the rate computations increased from 9 to 22 between 1979 and 1980, comparisons of the rates for the individual Hispanic groups are valid because the 1980 rates for the 9-State and 22-State areas are almost the same. (The 1979 rates could only be computed for the nine States for which the necessary population data were available from the Bureau of the Census.) However, the declines for the overall Hispanic birth rate (from 25.5 to 23.5) and fertility rate (from 100.5 to 95.4) are understated. In 1980 Mexican births comprised a larger proportion of Hispanic births in the 22-State area (70.1 percent) than in the 9-State area (62.2 percent), and fertility levels were highest for the Mexican population.

Within the Hispanic population there continue to be considerable variations in fertility levels. Mexican birth and fertility rates were again highest in 1980 at 26.6 and 111.3, respectively. Birth and fertility rates for Puerto Ricans (20.3 and 77.0) were about 25–30 percent below the rates for Mexicans, while rates for Cubans (9.6 and 41.9) were about 60–65 percent below the rates for Mexicans.

Birth rates by age and Hispanic origin of mother show that at ages 25 years and older Hispanic fertility was significantly higher than white and black non-Hispanic fertility (figure 1 and table 5). At ages under 20 years, Hispanic fertility was substantially above that for white non-Hispanic women but below that for black non-Hispanic women. Among women 20–24 years, the rates for Hispanic women and black non-Hispanic women were comparable, and almost 50 percent higher than the rates for white non-Hispanic women.

Fertility by age among the various Hispanic population groups varies widely, but Mexican women consistently have the highest rates and Cuban women the lowest. Age-specific birth rates for Mexican women aged 20 years and older were higher than for any other Hispanic or non-Hispanic group. Rates for Cuban women under age 35 years were substantially below those for every other Hispanic or non-Hispanic group; at ages 35 years and older, the fertility of Cuban women was comparable to that for white non-Hispanic women. The differential between Mexican and Puerto Rican women increased as age of mother advanced. Thus, the birth rates for Mexican and Puerto Rican teenagers were similar, but then diverged more for each successively older age of mother group. In contrast, the differential between Mexican women and Cuban and other Hispanic-origin women declined from ages 15–19 years through ages 25–29, and then generally increased.

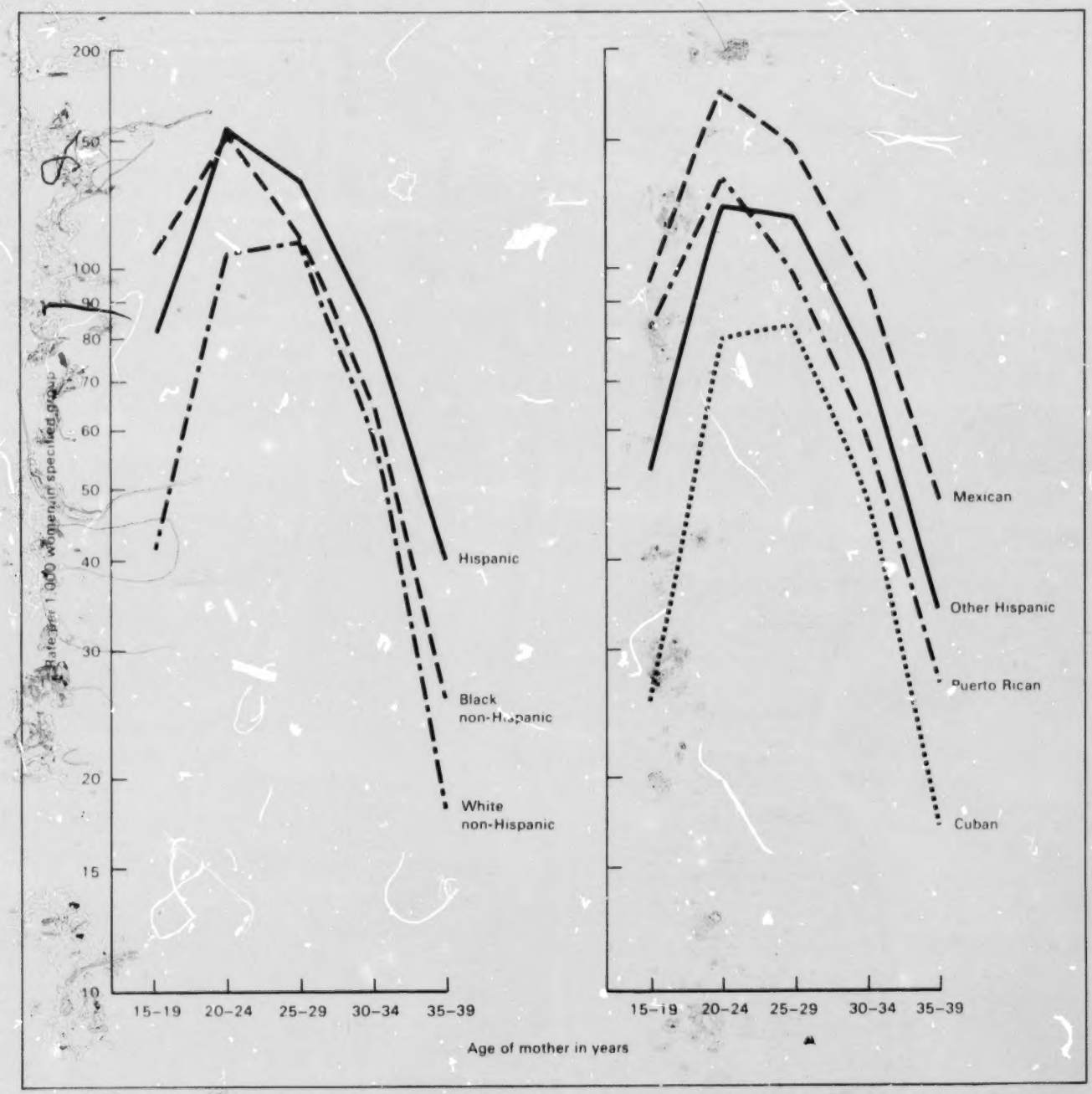


Figure 1. Birth rates by age of mother, by Hispanic origin of mother, and by race of child for mothers of non-Hispanic origin: Total of 22 reporting States, 1980

Fertility for Puerto Rican women was high compared with white non-Hispanic women through ages 20–24 years, but then dropped off sharply through ages 30–34 years to levels roughly comparable to those for white non-Hispanic women. The rates for Puerto Rican women were relatively high again at ages 35 years and older.

The total fertility rate is a measure to evaluate the potential impact of current levels of fertility on completed fertility. These rates (table 5) show that Mexican women could be expected to complete their fertility with 2,901 births per 1,000 women if the 1980 age-specific birth rates prevailed throughout their childbearing years. The total fertility rate of Mexican women is higher than for any other Hispanic or non-Hispanic origin group and suggests that the Mexican population is now perhaps the fastest growing ethnic group, excluding growth from immigration, in the United States. The rate for black non-Hispanic

women is second highest at 2,354 births per 1,000 women, followed by the rates for other Hispanic women, 2,061, and Puerto Rican women, 2,046. Rates for white non-Hispanic women (1,692) and Cuban women (1,296) were substantially lower.

Birth rates by live-birth order provide further evidence of the generally higher fertility of Hispanic women compared with non-Hispanic women (table 6). The rates for Mexican women were higher at each birth order than for any other group. Rates for Puerto Rican women for first and second births were slightly above those for white non-Hispanic women, but the rates for third and higher order births among Puerto Rican women substantially exceeded those for white non-Hispanic women. Rates by live-birth order for Cuban women were consistently far below the rates for any other Hispanic or non-Hispanic origin group. Basic data on births by age of mother and by live-birth order are shown in tables 7 and 8.

Because 1980 was a census year, the population data are available to compute birth and fertility rates for each of the 22 reporting States. These rates are shown in tables 9 and 10. In many cases the rates must be used with caution because they are based on very few births and/or small populations; the rates should be used in conjunction with the birth data shown in table 2. In general, the rates are most meaningful in those States and among the Hispanic-origin groups with the largest numbers of births, as indicated in a preceding section on geographic coverage.

Births to unmarried women

Nearly one-quarter of Hispanic-origin births in 1980 were to unmarried women. A total of 72,531 babies, 23.6 percent of Hispanic births in the 22 States, were born to unmarried mothers, compared with 9.3 percent of white non-Hispanic births and 56.4 percent of black non-Hispanic births (tables 7 and 11).

The rate of childbearing by unmarried Hispanic women was nearly twice the rate for unmarried non-Hispanic women. In 1980 the rate was 52.0 births per 1,000 unmarried Hispanic women aged 15–44 years, compared with a rate of 27.7 for non-Hispanic women (table 11). Wide differences exist in the birth rates for unmarried women among the various Hispanic-origin groups. The rate for Puerto Rican women is the highest at 74.5, followed by rates of 54.5 for Mexican women and 40.9 for "other" Hispanic women. The rate of 9.3 for Cuban women is considerably lower than for any other Hispanic or non-Hispanic group. Although the necessary population data to compute these rates for non-Hispanic women by race are not available for the 22-State reporting area, the rates can be compared with those previously published for the entire United States. The 1980 birth rates for unmarried women by race were 17.6 for white women and 82.9 for black women. Based on these data, it is apparent that the level of nonmarital childbearing by Hispanic women falls about halfway between the levels for white and black women.

The levels of nonmarital childbearing are higher for Hispanic than for non-Hispanic women at all ages (table 11), with the differential increasing as age of mother advances. This is also true for Mexican, Puerto Rican, and "other" Hispanic unmarried women. The rates for Cuban women, however, are lower at each age, although the differential decreases with advancing age (figure 2).

One factor which could be associated with the high rates of nonmarital births among Hispanic women is the greater incidence of consensual or common law marriages, particularly among Puerto Rican women. It is not known from information contained on the birth certificate the extent to which consensually married women report their status as married or unmarried or the extent to which their marital status would be inferred as married or unmarried if it was not reported.

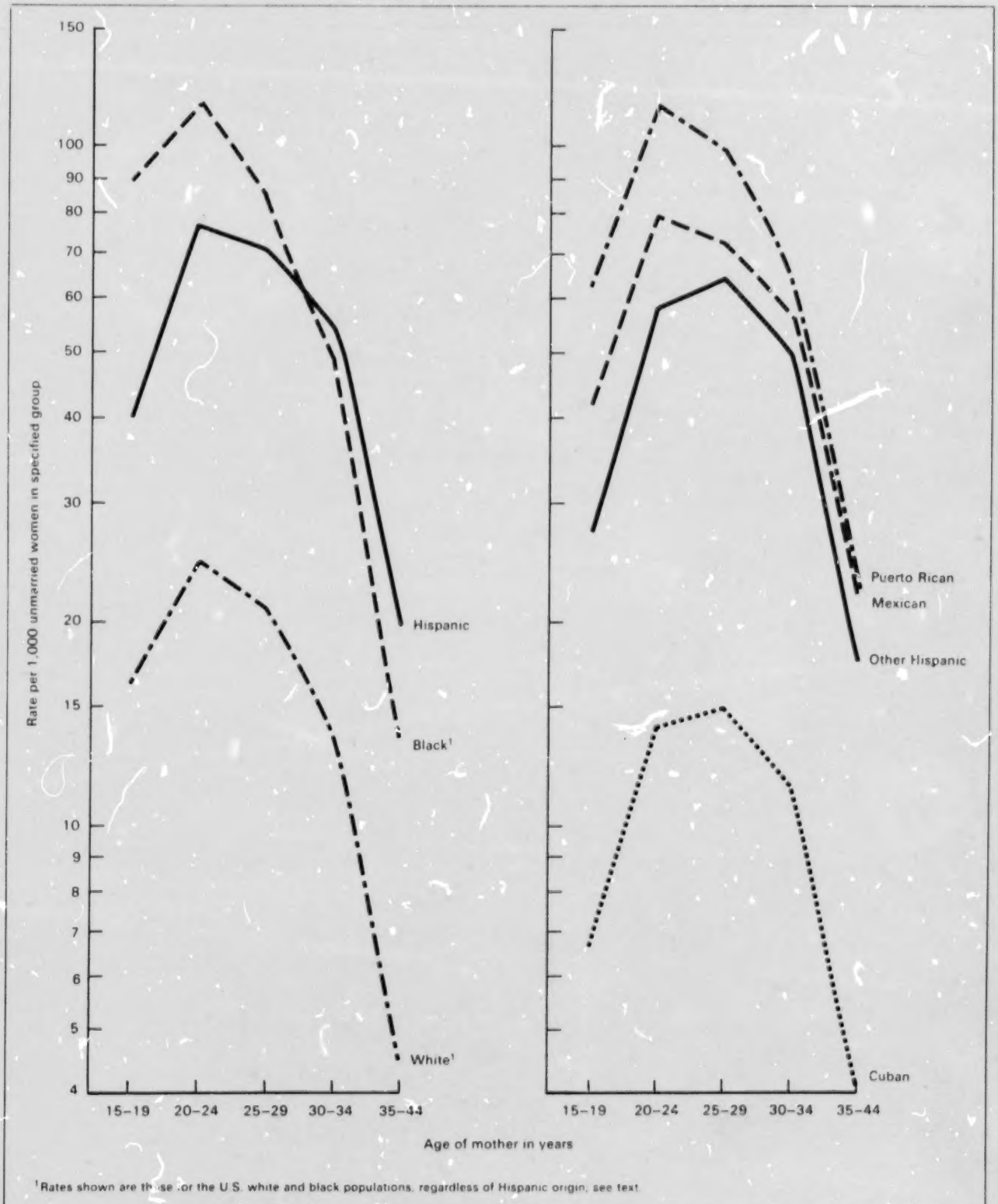
Educational attainment

Mothers of Hispanic origin were considerably less likely to have completed high school than were non-Hispanic mothers. Cuban mothers were the only Hispanic group whose educational attainment was generally comparable with that of white non-Hispanic mothers. In 1980, 49.0 percent of Hispanic mothers had completed at least 12 years of schooling compared with 81.9 percent for white non-Hispanic and 62.9 percent for black non-Hispanic mothers (table 12). These data were available for 20 States in 1980. California and Texas did not require the reporting of educational attainment. As a result, educational attainment is available for just 36.6 percent of all Hispanic-origin births and for only 17.0 percent of Mexican births in the 22 States.

Associated with the lower levels of high school completion observed for Hispanic mothers are substantial proportions of mothers with only a grade school education. In 1980, for example, 37.1 percent of Mexican mothers, 22.9 percent of Central and South American origin mothers, and 16.8 percent of Puerto Rican mothers had completed fewer than 9 years of formal education, compared with only 2.5 percent of white non-Hispanic mothers and 4.8 percent of black non-Hispanic mothers. The relatively large proportion of births to Mexican and Puerto Rican teenagers is a factor associated with their lower levels of educational attainment.

Prenatal care

Hispanic mothers are more likely to begin prenatal care at a later stage of pregnancy than non-Hispanic mothers. Cuban mothers, however, are very similar to white non-Hispanic mothers in terms of receipt of prenatal care. In 1980, 12.0 percent of Hispanic mothers received no prenatal care until the third trimester of pregnancy or no care at all, compared with 3.5 percent of white non-Hispanic and 9.6 percent of black non-Hispanic mothers (table 13). The proportion of Hispanic mothers who received prenatal care in the critical first tri-



[1]Rates shown are those for the U.S. white and black populations, regardless of Hispanic origin, see text.

Figure 2. Birth rates for unmarried women by age of mother, by Hispanic origin of mother, and by race of child: Total of 22 reporting States, 1980

mester of pregnancy was substantially lower than for white non-Hispanic mothers, but about the same for black non-Hispanic mothers. The figure for Hispanic mothers was 60.3 percent compared with 81.3 percent of white non-Hispanic mothers and 61.1 percent of black non-Hispanic mothers who began prenatal care in the first trimester.

The lower proportions of Hispanic women beginning prenatal care early in pregnancy are possibly associated with the generally younger age distribution and lower educational attainment of these women, as well as the tendency to larger families. Other studies have shown that young mothers with low educational attainment as well as women having high order births are especially unlikely to receive early prenatal care.[4]

Associated with the delay in receipt of prenatal care, Hispanic mothers are likely to make fewer visits for care than are non-Hispanic mothers. Mexican and Puerto Rican women made the fewest visits. They had medians of 9.3 and 9.2 visits, respectively, in 1980. The median number of visits made by Cuban mothers was 11.4, the same as the median for white non-Hispanic mothers, and about 1 visit more than made by black non-Hispanic mothers (10.5).

Low birth weight

The incidence of low birth weight among babies born to Hispanic-origin women is comparable to that observed for white non-Hispanic women (table 14). Low birth weight is defined as weight of less than 2,500 grams (equivalent to 5 pounds 8 ounces). In 1980, 5.6 percent of births to Mexican and Cuban mothers were of low birth weight, compared with 5.7 percent of white births to non-Hispanic mothers. Only births to Puerto Rican mothers were much more likely to be of low birth weight —8.9 percent in 1980. These proportions have been fairly constant since 1978.

The percent of low birth weight among Mexican-origin babies is very favorable despite the less favorable status of Mexican women in terms of educational attainment and prenatal care. This same pattern observed here for 22 States is consistent with related national data on low birth weight tabulated by mother's place of birth. In 1980, the proportions of low birth weight were 4.9 percent for births to Mexican-born women, 5.4 percent for births to Cuban-born women, and 8.6 percent for births to Puerto Rican-born women, compared with 5.7 percent for births to white native-born women.

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Symbols

. . .	Data not available
....	Category not applicable
-	Quantity zero
0.0	Quantity more than 0 but less than 0.05
*	Figure does not meet standard of reliability or precision

Table 1. Live births by Hispanic origin of mother and father: Total of 22 reporting States, 1980

Origin of father	Origin of mother								
	All origins	Hispanic						Non-Hispanic	Not stated
		Total	Mexican	Puerto Rican	Cuban	Central and South American	Other and unknown Hispanic		
All origins	2,075,527	307,163	215,439	33,671	7,163	21,268	29,622	1,623,938	144,426
Hispanic	288,706	246,415	181,897	23,870	5,559	16,804	18,285	39,726	2,565
Mexican	208,131	182,597	178,308	810	183	1,671	1,625	23,870	1,714
Puerto Rican	29,571	24,232	1,210	21,003	309	1,224	486	5,043	296
Cuban	7,101	5,628	237	342	4,443	402	204	1,431	42
Central and South American	18,649	16,435	1,216	1,334	399	13,343	143	2,121	93
Other and unknown Hispanic	25,204	17,523	926	381	225	164	15,827	7,261	420
Non-Hispanic	1,446,130	34,071	18,638	3,232	1,181	2,610	8,360	1,403,785	8,274
Not stated	340,691	26,677	14,904	6,519	423	1,854	2,977	180,427	133,587

Table 2. Live births by Hispanic origin of mother: 22 reporting States, 1980

State of residence	Origin of mother										
	All origins	Hispanic						Non-Hispanic			Not stated
		Total	Mexican	Puerto Rican	Cuban	Central and South American	Other and unknown Hispanic	Total[1]	White	Black	
All reporting States	2,075,527	307,163	215,439	33,671	7,163	21,268	29,622	1,623,938	1,239,488	310,508	144,426
Arizona	50,048	11,582	11,046	58	14	54	410	37,708	30,408	1,949	758
Arkansas	37,278	246	79	11	15	34	107	31,571	23,176	8,135	5,461
California	402,949	114,897	100,868	1,231	580	5,924	6,294	227,500	169,271	32,996	60,552
Colorado	49,730	7,309	3,248	68	17	57	3,919	39,297	35,641	2,162	3,124
Florida	131,795	11,797	1,808	1,489	4,531	1,438	2,531	118,464	83,798	33,258	1,534
Georgia	92,313	635	206	141	56	84	148	86,359	52,872	32,683	5,319
Hawaii	18,161	1,792	214	521	18	36	1,003	16,326	3,923	554	43
Illinois	190,058	17,771	11,148	2,582	213	777	3,051	166,577	122,366	40,335	5,710
Indiana	88,440	1,663	1,148	246	21	57	191	80,967	71,378	8,962	5,810
Kansas	40,716	1,285	998	85	7	37	158	34,898	31,045	2,966	4,533
Maine	16,461	49	9	10	3	2	25	14,420	14,148	71	1,992
Mississippi	47,845	121	44	14	-	18	45	45,163	22,749	22,015	2,561
Nebraska	27,352	643	565	5	4	10	59	25,299	23,575	1,282	1,410
Nevada	13,320	1,108	688	17	25	32	346	10,968	9,432	758	1,244
New Jersey	96,866	10,233	193	6,276	859	1,911	994	78,630	57,849	18,761	8,003
New Mexico	26,115	8,768	2,255	24	4	30	6,455	17,169	13,025	552	179
New York	239,011	33,004	638	19,726	615	9,746	2,279	186,121	136,889	42,721	19,886
North Dakota	11,982	52	32	-	-	4	16	11,065	10,136	102	865
Ohio	169,148	2,154	875	750	24	101	404	156,603	133,033	22,015	10,391
Texas	273,580	79,693	78,023	399	134	825	312	190,239	148,183	37,933	3,648
Utah	41,797	1,697	944	10	23	85	635	39,836	38,295	202	264
Wyoming	10,562	664	410	8	-	6	240	8,758	8,300	96	1,140

[1] Includes races other than white and black.

Table 3. Live births by Hispanic origin of father: 22 reporting States, 1980

State of residence	Origin of father								
	All origins	Hispanic						Non-Hispanic	Not stated
		Total	Mexican	Puerto Rican	Cuban	Central and South American	Other and unknown Hispanic		
All reporting States	2,075,527	288,706	208,181	29,571	7,101	18,649	25,204	1,446,130	340,691
Arizona	50,048	11,381	10,874	96	10	28	373	35,215	3,452
Arkansas	37,278	202	75	11	11	27	78	25,494	11,582
California	402,949	116,048	102,749	1,601	592	5,076	6,030	219,468	67,433
Colorado	49,730	6,098	3,069	90	17	36	2,886	35,466	8,166
Florida	131,795	11,355	1,847	1,491	4,497	1,352	2,168	99,638	20,802
Georgia	92,313	692	206	176	71	72	167	73,742	17,879
Hawaii	18,161	1,423	190	455	13	28	737	14,642	2,096
Illinois	190,058	18,289	11,734	2,728	207	763	2,857	154,859	16,910
Indiana	88,440	1,636	1,175	264	19	47	131	70,997	15,807
Kansas	40,716	1,323	1,047	94	12	33	137	31,788	7,605
Maine	16,461	47	12	14	1	4	16	12,726	3,688
Mississippi	47,845	116	55	10	3	15	33	32,489	15,240
Nebraska	27,352	584	506	9	-	10	58	22,950	3,818
Nevada	13,320	1,073	692	24	37	31	289	9,516	2,731
New Jersey	96,866	8,876	166	5,302	790	1,760	858	67,658	20,332
New Mexico	26,115	7,275	2,111	41	8	24	5,091	18,515	325
New York	239,011	27,410	538	15,772	597	8,542	1,961	160,771	50,830
North Dakota	11,982	58	28	-	4	2	24	10,220	1,704
Ohio	169,148	2,094	824	818	25	65	362	139,725	27,329
Texas	273,580	70,573	68,922	561	155	668	267	163,583	39,424
Utah	41,797	1,511	940	2	29	60	480	38,454	1,832
Wyoming	10,562	642	421	12	2	6	201	8,214	1,706

Table 4. Number of live births and percent distribution by race of child, by Hispanic origin of mother: Total of 22 reporting States, 1980

Race of child	Origin of mother								
	All origins	Hispanic						Non-Hispanic	Not stated
		Total	Mexican	Puerto Rican	Cuban	Central and South American	Other and unknown Hispanic		
	Number								
All races	2,075,527	307,163	215,439	33,671	7,163	21,268	29,622	1,623,938	144,426
White	1,653,246	292,197	211,280	30,437	6,840	16,847	26,793	1,239,488	121,561
Black	337,165	8,866	2,520	2,508	222	2,599	1,017	310,508	17,791
Other	85,116	6,100	1,639	726	101	1,822	1,812	73,942	5,074
	Percent distribution								
All races	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White	79.7	95.1	98.1	90.4	95.5	79.2	90.4	76.3	84.2
Black	16.2	2.9	1.2	7.4	3.1	12.2	3.4	19.1	12.3
Other	4.1	2.0	0.8	2.2	1.4	8.6	6.1	4.6	3.5

Table 5. Total fertility and birth rates by age of mother, by Hispanic origin of mother, and by race of child for mothers of non-Hispanic origin: Total of 22 reporting States, 1980

[Total fertility rates are sums of birth rates for 5-year age groups multiplied by 5. Birth rates are live births per 1,000 women in specified group]

Age of mother	Origin of mother								
	All origins[1]	Hispanic					Non-Hispanic[1]		
		Total	Mexican	Puerto Rican	Cuban	Other Hispanic[2]	Total[3]	White	Black
Total fertility rate	1,893.5	2,534.0	2,900.5	2,045.5	1,296.0	2,061.0	1,814.5	1,692.0	2,353.5
10–14 years	1.2	1.7	1.9	2.3	0.3	0.9	1.1	0.4	4.8
15–19 years	55.2	82.2	95.6	83.0	25.3	52.3	51.5	41.2	105.1
15–17 years[4]	33.9	52.1	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	31.3	22.4	77.2
18–19 years[4]	85.7	126.9	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	80.2	67.7	146.5
20–24 years	117.8	156.4	176.8	133.3	80.2	123.7	112.8	105.5	152.2
25–29 years	114.1	132.1	147.1	98.5	84.1	118.6	111.9	110.6	111.7
30–34 years	64.4	83.2	95.2	58.7	48.4	74.1	62.2	59.9	65.2
35–39 years	21.5	39.9	48.4	26.9	17.2	33.9	19.6	17.7	25.8
40–44 years	4.3	10.6	14.2	6.1	3.6	8.0	3.6	3.0	5.8
45–49 years	0.2	0.7	0.9	0.3	0.1	0.7	0.2	0.1	0.3

[1]Includes origin not stated.
[2]Includes Central and South American and other and unknown Hispanic.
[3]Includes races other than white and black.
[4]Population data to compute rates not available for specific Hispanic-origin groups.

Table 6. Birth rates by live-birth order by Hispanic origin of mother, and by race of child for mothers of non-Hispanic origin: Total of 22 reporting States, 1980

[Rates are live births per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years. Figures for live-birth order not stated are distributed]

Live-birth order	Origin of mother								
	All origins[1]	Hispanic					Non-Hispanic[1]		
		Total	Mexican	Puerto Rican	Cuban	Other Hispanic[2]	Total[3]	White	Black
Total	70.2	95.4	111.3	77.0	41.9	75.3	67.1	62.4	90.7
First child	30.0	36.1	40.4	30.3	21.1	31.3	29.3	28.0	35.7
Second child	22.1	27.2	30.8	22.6	14.0	23.2	21.5	20.4	26.4
Third child	10.6	16.1	19.0	13.7	4.8	12.2	9.9	9.0	15.0
Fourth child	4.2	7.8	9.8	6.0	1.3	4.9	3.7	3.1	7.1
Fifth child	1.7	3.7	5.0	2.4	0.4	1.9	1.4	1.1	3.2
Sixth child and over	1.6	4.5	6.3	2.1	0.3	1.8	1.3	0.9	3.2

[1]Includes origin not stated.
[2]Includes Central and South American and other and unknown Hispanic.
[3]Includes races other than white and black.

Table 7. Live births by age of mother and Hispanic origin of mother, and by race of child for mothers of non-Hispanic origin: Total of 22 reporting States, 1980

Age of mother	Origin of mother									
	All origins[1]	Hispanic						Non-Hispanic		
		Total	Mexican	Puerto Rican	Cuban	Central and South American	Other and unknown Hispanic	Total[2]	White	Black
All ages	2,075,527	307,163	215,439	33,671	7,163	21,268	29,622	1,623,938	1,239,488	310,508
Under 15 years	6,014	1,115	801	208	7	18	81	4,591	3,331	3,163
15–19 years	317,548	57,132	41,770	7,627	924	1,772	5,039	240,152	153,196	80,313
15 years	16,631	3,227	2,383	494	31	60	289	12,530	5,385	6,853
16 years	36,549	7,069	5,185	1,042	82	166	594	27,304	14,912	11,769
17 years	61,389	11,352	8,341	1,603	153	285	964	46,206	28,239	16,719
18 years	87,672	15,679	11,454	2,043	267	509	1,406	66,378	43,477	21,047
19 years	115,307	19,805	14,427	2,439	391	762	1,786	87,734	61,183	23,925
20–24 years	699,121	107,001	76,101	11,856	2,441	6,450	10,153	544,615	416,063	109,858
25–29 years	629,185	80,149	55,074	7,870	2,181	6,855	8,169	504,134	409,513	70,085
30–34 years	322,293	42,391	28,490	4,281	1,064	4,180	4,376	255,683	203,933	33,988
35–39 years	86,305	15,653	10,557	1,534	430	1,651	1,481	64,376	48,298	10,863
40–44 years	14,313	3,512	2,500	283	112	322	295	9,898	6,838	2,126
45–49 years	748	210	146	12	4	20	28	489	316	112

[1]Includes origin not stated.
[2]Includes races other than white and black.

Table 8. Percent distribution of live births by live-birth order, by Hispanic origin of mother, and by race of child for mothers of non-Hispanic origin: Total of 22 reporting States, 1980

Live-birth order	Origin of mother									
	All origins[1]	Hispanic						Non-Hispanic		
		Total	Mexican	Puerto Rican	Cuban	Central and South American	Other and unknown Hispanic	Total[2]	White	Black
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
First child	42.8	37.8	36.3	39.3	50.4	41.6	41.6	43.6	44.7	39.3
Second child	31.5	28.5	27.7	29.4	33.4	31.8	30.0	32.0	32.7	29.2
Third child	15.1	16.9	17.1	17.7	11.5	16.0	16.1	14.8	14.4	16.6
Fourth child	5.9	8.2	8.8	7.8	3.0	6.2	6.8	5.6	4.9	7.9
Fifth child	2.4	3.9	4.4	3.1	0.9	2.2	2.7	2.1	1.8	3.5
Sixth child and over	2.3	4.7	5.7	2.7	0.8	2.0	2.8	1.9	1.4	3.5

[1]Includes origin not stated.
[2]Includes races other than white and black.

Table 9. Birth rates by Hispanic origin of mother, and by race of child for mothers of non-Hispanic origin: 22 reporting States, 1980

[Rates per 1,000 population in specified group]

State of residence	Origin of mother							
	All origins[1]	Hispanic				Non-Hispanic[1]		
		Total	Mexican	Puerto Rican	Cuban	Other Hispanic[2]	Total[3]	White	Black
All reporting States	16.4	23.5	26.6	20.3	9.6	20.0	15.5	14.2	22.9
Arizona	18.4	26.3	27.9	14.3	*13.1	11.8	16.9	15.3	26.8
Arkansas	16.3	13.7	7.3	*13.3	*24.3	25.3	13.3	14.6	24.8
California	17.0	25.3	27.7	13.2	9.5	16.2	15.1	13.8	22.4
Colorado	17.2	21.5	15.7	16.0	*11.4	31.4	16.6	16.1	23.2
Florida	13.5	13.7	22.8	15.7	9.6	18.6	13.5	11.4	25.4
Georgia	16.9	10.4	7.5	17.9	9.6	11.7	17.0	14.6	23.3
Hawaii	18.8	25.1	24.7	26.9	*45.9	24.2	18.3	12.5	33.1
Illinois	16.6	28.0	27.3	20.0	11.2	48.4	16.0	14.2	24.7
Indiana	16.1	19.1	19.9	19.4	11.0	16.7	16.1	15.4	23.3
Kansas	17.2	20.3	20.0	29.1	*7.6	20.4	17.1	16.4	27.2
Maine	14.6	9.8	*5.8	*14.0	*14.6	10.6	14.7	14.5	26.1
Mississippi	19.0	4.9	3.0	*13.2	-	7.6	19.1	15.3	25.9
Nebraska	17.4	22.9	25.2	*8.0	*11.0	15.0	17.3	16.8	27.1
Nevada	16.6	20.6	21.1	*9.2	6.7	24.2	16.4	15.1	25.8
New Jersey	13.2	20.8	14.7	25.8	10.6	18.8	12.6	11.2	21.1
New Mexico	20.0	18.4	[4]18.3	14.9	*6.6	[4]18.3	21.0	19.0	24.1
New York	13.6	19.9	16.5	20.0	8.0	21.6	13.0	11.6	19.8
North Dakota	18.4	13.3	13.8	-	-	15.6	18.4	17.5	42.2
Ohio	15.7	18.0	16.4	23.1	7.4	16.3	15.6	14.9	21.8
Texas	19.2	26.7	28.3	17.4	9.5	5.8	17.2	16.1	22.7
Utah	28.6	28.1	24.8	*6.7	81.3	35.1	28.6	22.5	22.7
Wyoming	22.5	27.1	25.7	*27.9	-	30.1	22.2	21.7	32.3

[1] Includes origin not stated.
[2] Includes Central and South American and other and unknown Hispanic.
[3] Includes races other than white and black.
[4] Rate is births to Mexican and "other Hispanic" mothers per 1,000 Mexican and "other Hispanic" population; see Technical notes.

*Based on fewer than 20 births.

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Table 10. Fertility rates by Hispanic origin of mother, and by race of child for mothers of non-Hispanic origin: 22 reporting States, 1980

[Rates per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years in specified group]

State of residence	Origin of mother								
	All origins[1]	Hispanic					Non-Hispanic[1]		
		Total	Mexican	Puerto Rican	Cuban	Other Hispanic[2]	Total[3]	White	Black
All reporting States	70.2	95.4	111.3	77.0	41.9	75.3	67.1	62.4	90.7
Arizona	80.1	110.3	117.0	60.2	*55.1	47.1	74.0	67.4	115.2
Arkansas	74.2	58.5	32.7	*50.7	*107.1	98.6	74.3	66.8	111.8
California	70.8	102.1	114.6	52.9	39.7	59.1	63.1	58.9	86.3
Colorado	67.9	87.0	93.9	63.3	*45.7	125.4	65.4	63.4	90.8
Florida	64.1	58.8	103.4	64.3	42.8	73.3	64.7	56.5	102.1
Georgia	69.6	42.5	32.0	77.0	40.3	43.9	69.9	61.1	92.1
Hawaii	78.9	103.8	100.0	124.9	*206.9	95.7	76.9	50.5	178.9
Illinois	71.3	115.2	117.8	76.0	45.5	182.9	68.6	62.7	95.9
Indiana	69.1	80.5	87.0	78.7	41.8	64.7	68.9	66.7	93.9
Kansas	76.9	88.5	89.3	130.6	*31.8	78.8	76.5	73.6	114.6
Maine	64.8	41.6	*27.9	*60.6	*61.2	42.1	64.9	64.4	139.1
Mississippi	83.9	20.9	13.6	*52.2	-	30.6	84.6	68.1	113.8
Nebraska	77.4	98.4	111.4	*35.7	*50.6	55.4	77.0	75.2	107.6
Nevada	68.4	83.6	88.0	*38.8	28.4	91.8	67.3	62.9	97.8
New Jersey	57.4	79.4	61.2	97.2	43.2	70.3	55.6	50.7	80.1
New Mexico	84.1	75.5	[4]75.6	62.7	*27.8	[4]75.6	89.3	82.0	104.3
New York	58.5	73.9	68.2	74.5	36.2	77.4	56.6	52.4	74.2
North Dakota	82.4	55.0	57.9	-	-	61.5	82.6	78.9	206.2
Ohio	67.5	74.8	71.8	93.0	31.3	64.9	67.5	64.9	87.2
Texas	81.0	112.2	119.7	72.8	37.7	22.8	72.7	68.7	92.1
Utah	123.0	119.5	109.9	*27.9	242.1	139.6	123.2	122.8	107.6
Wyoming	94.8	118.2	115.2	*111.1	-	124.9	93.5	91.6	145.4

[1]Includes origin not stated.
[2]Includes Central and South American and other and unknown Hispanic.
[3]Includes races other than white and black.
[4]Rate is births to Mexican and "other Hispanic" mothers per 1,000 Mexican and "other Hispanic" women aged 15–44 years; see Technical notes.

*Based on fewer than 20 births.

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Table 11. Number and rate of births to unmarried women, by age and Hispanic origin of mother, and by race of child for mothers of non-Hispanic origin: Total of 22 reporting States, 1980

Age of mother	Origin of mother									
	All origins[1]	Hispanic						Non-Hispanic		
		Total	Mexican	Puerto Rican	Cuban	Central and South American	Other and unknown Hispanic	Total[2]	White	Black
	Number									
All ages	399,272	72,531	43,822	15,593	713	5,769	6,634	300,603	115,467	175,205
Under 15 years	5,324	821	551	184	3	16	67	4,233	1,034	3,121
15–19 years	152,474	23,924	15,470	5,049	220	877	2,308	119,287	47,350	68,636
15 years	12,899	1,965	1,267	436	18	42	202	10,269	3,393	6,654
16 years	23,966	3,799	2,507	794	31	102	365	18,683	7,198	11,049
17 years	33,795	5,219	3,443	1,080	41	155	500	26,560	10,721	15,062
18 years	39,947	6,166	3,969	1,303	59	244	591	31,352	12,717	17,754
19 years	41,867	6,775	4,284	1,436	71	334	650	32,423	13,321	18,117
20–24 years	141,655	25,475	15,433	5,485	244	1,967	2,346	107,080	40,909	62,637
25–29 years	62,053	12,734	7,123	2,795	132	1,540	1,144	44,828	16,401	26,555
30–34 years	26,890	6,457	3,513	1,441	68	928	507	18,388	7,045	10,409
35–39 years	8,891	2,530	1,400	523	38	353	211	5,719	2,233	3,161
40 years and over	1,985	590	332	111	8	88	51	1,268	505	686
	Rate per 1,000 unmarried women									
15–44 years[3]	30.3	52.0	54.5	74.5	9.3	40.9		27.7	---	---
15–19 years	29.1	39.7	41.8	62.4	6.6	27.0		27.7	---	---
15–17 years	21.7	28.3	29.9	43.9	4.3	18.6		20.8	---	---
18–19 years	41.4	60.5	63.9	96.8	10.6	41.1		39.0	---	---
20–24 years	42.5	76.5	79.5	114.1	14.0	58.6		38.7	---	---
25–29 years	34.2	71.1	72.0	94.8	14.8	64.2		30.2	---	---
30–34 years	22.0	53.9	56.2	64.8	11.4	49.3		18.5	---	---
35–44 years[4]	6.9	19.6	22.0	22.3	4.1	17.2		5.5	---	---

[1] Includes origin not stated.
[2] Includes races other than white and black.
[3] Rates computed by relating total births to unmarried mothers, regardless of age of mother, to unmarried women 15–44 years.
[4] Rates computed by relating births to unmarried mothers aged 35 years and over to unmarried women aged 35–44 years.

NOTE: Population data to compute rates for non-Hispanic women by race are not available; see Technical notes.

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Table 12. Number of live births and percent distribution of live births by educational attainment of mother and median years of school completed, by Hispanic origin of mother, and by race of child for mothers of non-Hispanic origin: Total of 20 reporting States, 1980

Years of school completed by mother	Origin of mother									
	All origins[1]	Hispanic						Non-Hispanic		
		Total	Mexican	Puerto Rican	Cuban	Central and South American	Other and unknown Hispanic	Total[2]	White	Black
	Number									
Live births	1,398,998	112,573	36,548	32,041	6,449	14,519	23,016	1,206,199	922,034	239,579
	Percent distribution									
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
0–8 years	4.7	23.0	37.1	16.8	8.4	22.9	13.2	3.2	2.5	4.8
9–11 years	19.6	28.1	25.7	38.5	15.8	18.3	26.9	18.9	15.6	32.3
12 years	43.6	34.1	27.0	32.5	41.8	40.3	41.5	44.3	45.4	41.7
13–15 years	18.2	10.8	8.0	9.3	22.4	12.4	12.9	18.9	19.9	15.3
16 years or more	13.9	4.2	2.2	3.0	11.6	6.1	5.5	14.7	16.6	5.9
Percent completing 12 years or more of school	75.7	49.0	37.2	44.7	75.9	58.8	59.9	77.9	81.9	62.9
	Median									
Years of school completed	12.6	11.9	10.5	11.6	12.6	12.2	12.2	12.6	12.7	12.3

[1]Includes origin not stated.
[2]Includes races other than white and black.

NOTE: Excludes data for California and Texas, which did not report educational attainment.

Table 13. Percent distribution of live births by month of pregnancy prenatal care began and median number of prenatal visits, by Hispanic origin of mother, and by race of child for mothers of non-Hispanic origin: Total of 22 reporting States, 1980

Measure of prenatal care	Origin of mother									
	All origins[1]	Hispanic						Non-Hispanic		
		Total	Mexican	Puerto Rican	Cuban	Central and South American	Other and unknown Hispanic	Total[2]	White	Black
Month of pregnancy prenatal care began	Percent distribution									
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1st and 2d month	50.2	36.9	36.1	32.3	62.9	35.5	42.5	52.3	56.2	37.6
3d month	24.5	23.4	23.6	22.8	19.8	23.2	23.9	24.7	25.1	23.5
4th–6th month	19.4	27.8	28.5	28.7	13.4	28.1	24.4	18.1	15.2	29.3
7th–9th month	4.1	8.2	8.5	7.9	2.8	8.2	7.5	3.6	2.7	6.4
No prenatal care	1.6	3.8	3.4	8.3	1.0	5.0	1.7	1.3	0.8	3.2
Prenatal visits[3]	Median									
Number[4]	11.0	9.5	9.3	9.2	11.4	9.6	10.0	11.1	11.4	10.5

[1]Includes origin not stated.
[2]Includes races other than white and black.
[3]Excludes data for California and New Mexico, which did not report number of prenatal visits.
[4]Excludes births to mothers with no prenatal care.

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Table 14. Percent distribution of live births by birth weight and percent low birth weight, by Hispanic origin of mother, and by race of child for mothers of non-Hispanic origin: Total of 22 reporting States, 1980

Birth weight	Origin of mother									
	All origins[1]	Hispanic						Non-Hispanic		
		Total	Mexican	Puerto Rican	Cuban	Central and South American	Other and unknown Hispanic	Total[2]	White	Black
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than 500 grams	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
500–999 grams	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	1.0
1,000–1,499 grams	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.5	1.2
1,500–1,999 grams	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.7	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.4	1.1	2.5
2,000–2,499 grams	4.4	4.0	3.6	6.0	3.5	3.8	4.8	4.5	3.7	7.6
2,500–2,999 grams	16.7	16.9	15.8	22.6	15.7	16.3	19.5	16.8	14.6	24.4
3,000–3,499 grams	37.4	39.3	38.9	40.2	39.5	40.7	39.7	37.1	36.5	38.4
3,500–3,999 grams	28.6	28.3	29.4	22.5	29.5	28.2	26.3	28.6	31.1	19.6
4,000–4,499 grams	8.6	7.8	8.4	4.9	8.2	7.7	6.3	8.7	9.9	4.2
4,500–4,999 grams	1.6	1.4	1.6	0.7	1.3	1.2	1.0	1.6	1.9	0.7
5,000 grams or more	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.1
Percent low birth weight[3]	6.9	6.1	5.6	8.9	5.6	5.8	7.0	7.0	5.7	12.5

[1]Includes origin not stated.
[2]Includes races other than white and black.
[3]Weight of less than 2,500 grams (5 lbs 8 oz).

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Technical notes

Sources of data

Concurrent with the 1978 revision of the U.S. Standard Certificate of Live Birth, the National Center for Health Statistics recommended that States add items to identify Hispanic or ethnic origin of the newborn's mother and father. All 22 reporting States selected one of two basic formats. The first format was an open-ended item to obtain the specific origin or descent of each parent (for example, Italian, Mexican, German, Puerto Rican, English, or Cuban). The second format was directed specifically toward the Hispanic population and asked whether the mother and father were of Spanish origin. If so, the specific origin—Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, etc.—was to be indicated.

Sampling

Birth data shown in this report are based on 100 percent of the births occurring in the 44 States that provided data through the Vital Statistics Cooperative Program. Births occurring in the remaining six States (Arizona, California, Delaware, Georgia, New Mexico, and North Dakota) and the District of Columbia were sampled at a 50-percent rate. Because the sampling rate is large, the associated errors are relatively small. The data shown in the tables are for births to all residents of the 22 States reporting ethnic or Hispanic origin, regardless of where the births occurred.

Population denominators

Birth rates for 1980 are based on populations enumerated as of April 1, 1980. The figures by race in the 1980 census are affected by changes in the practice of reporting race, particularly on the part of the Hispanic population, and in coding and classifying racial groups in the 1980 census. One particular change has created a major inconsistency between the 1980 census data and historical data series. About 40 percent of the Hispanic population counted in 1980, more than 5.8 million persons, marked the "other" category instead of one of the specified races listed on the census questionnaire. In the 1980 census a modification was made in the coding procedures in the treatment of persons who marked "other" race and wrote in a national origin designation of a Latin American country or a specific Hispanic origin group in response to the race question. These persons remained in the "other races" category in 1980 census data. In previous censuses and in vital statistics, such responses were almost always coded into the "white" category. To maintain comparability, the 1980 census data by race have been redistributed to conform to the historical categories. Unpublished tabulations of these modified census counts were obtained from the U.S. Bureau of the Census and were used for the computation of the rates for this report.

In obtaining the modified census counts, persons who marked the "other" race category and reported any Spanish origin on the Spanish origin question (5.8 million persons) were distributed to white and black races in proportion to the distribution of Hispanic persons who reported their race to be white or black. This procedure was done for each age-sex group. Persons who marked the "other" race category and who reported that they were not of Spanish origin were distributed within each State to white, black, and other races using proportions from the detailed race codes in the sample phase of the 1980 census. The count of American Indians, Eskimos, and Aleuts was not affected by these procedures.

The procedures for obtaining modified census counts have not been applied to census counts by marital status. Therefore, rates by race for unmarried women for the non-Hispanic population have not been computed.

The U.S. Bureau of the Census has undertaken some evaluation of the reporting of Hispanic origin in the 1980 census.[5] Specifically, the Bureau has evaluated the extent of misreporting of Mexican origin persons in the census. The evaluation results suggest that there was some overstatement of Mexican origin, that is, that some non-Hispanic persons had misreported their origin as Mexican. The extent of this misreporting varied considerably by State, but was found to be most severe in certain Southern States. However, national data on the Mexican origin population are not seriously affected by this reporting problem. To the extent that the number of persons of Mexican origin has been overstated, birth and fertility rates will be understated. The Census Bureau is continuing its evaluation of the reporting of Hispanic origin, and preliminary evidence suggests that there is also some underreporting, particularly in certain Eastern States. More information on this topic may be obtained by consulting with the Ethnic and Spanish Statistics Branch, Population Division, Bureau of the Census.

Computation of rates

In computing vital statistics rates for this report, births with unknown origin of mother are included with non-Hispanic births rather than being distributed. Thus rates for the Hispanic population are underestimates of the true rates to the extent that the births with unknown origin of mother for the 22 reporting States (averaging 7.0 percent) are actually to Hispanic mothers. The population with unknown origin has been imputed. The effect on the rates is believed to be small.

Birth and fertility rates for the Mexican population in New Mexico are based on births occurring to Mexican and other Hispanic women combined. The Hispanic origin question on New Mexico's birth certificate includes the category "U.S. Southwest" as well as "Mexican." The category "U.S. Southwest" evidently includes a large number of persons whose ancestors were Mexican-born. In editing, the "U.S. Southwest"

category is recoded to "other Hispanic." Since Mexican-origin persons are included in the "U.S. Southwest" category, it was decided that rates for Mexican persons in New Mexico should be based on births and populations of Mexican and other Hispanic persons combined. These adjustments to the rates for Mexican-origin persons in New Mexico have not been made for the birth and fertility rates for the 22-State reporting area totals.

Computation of percent distributions and medians

Births of unknown live-birth order, educational attainment of mother, month of pregnancy prenatal care began, prenatal visits, and birth weight were subtracted from figures for total births used as denominators before percent distributions and medians were computed.